

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 08126 011819Z

72

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 059775

R 011809Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8038

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 08126

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VN

SUBJECT: REMARKS BY TRAN QUOC BUU

1. IN MARCH 28 CALL ON EMBASSY AND USDEL/JEC OFFICERS, CVT HEAD TRAN QUOC BUU STRESSED PRESIDENT THIEU NEEDED TO MAKE REAL POLITICAL AND MILITARY CHANGES IF GVN WERE TO SURVIVE. BUU CONFIRMED THAT IN MID-MARCH, HE, BUI DIEM AND TRAN VAN DO HAD URGED THIEU TO FORM A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION. BUU LAMENTED THAT THIEU HAD NOT FOLLOWED THIS SUGGESTION, BUT HAD INSTEAD ONLY FORMED A WAR CABINET. BUU FURTHER IMPLIED THIEU WAS REPLACEABLE. HE NOTED THAT THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE WERE STREAMING FROM I AND II CORPS NOT BECAUSE THEY LIKED THE PRESIDENT, BUT BECAUSE THEY PREFERRED LIBERTY TO COMMUNISM.

2. COMMENTING ON THE ARREST OF THE SEVEN "PLOTTERS", BUU SAID THESE WERE LOYAL MEN. BUU WARNED THAT HE WOULD PASS FROM A GOVERNMENT SUPPORTER "TO THE OPPOSITION" IF THIEU CONTINUED TO ARREST SUCH PEOPLE. BUU LAMENTED THAT THE ARRESTS SHOWED THIEU WAS "POORLY ADVISED". IF THE PRESIDENT WERE "MORE OPEN", ALL THE NATIONALISTS -- EVEN AN QUANG -- WOULD RALLY AROUND HIM.

3. BUU BELIEVED THIEU MUST ONCE AND FOR ALL PUT AN END
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 08126 011819Z

TO BLATANT GOVERNMENTAL CORRUPTION; THE DAYS OF FREE-

SPENDING WIVES OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE GENERALS HAD TO COME TO AN END. HE ALSO THOUGHT THAT SOUTH VIETNAM MUST REORGANIZE ITS ARMY, WHICH WAS BASED TOO MUCH ON THE SUPPORT-HEAVY AMERICAN MODEL. ARVN MUST NOT ONLY THINK IN TERMS OF CONVENTIONAL BATTLES, BUT MUST ALSO LAUNCH GUERRILLA OPERATIONS INTO ENEMY TERRITORY.

4. BUU ALSO REMARKED THAT HIS SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE STILL EXISTED. NEVERTHELESS, HE IMPLIED IT WOULD NOT SEEK AN IMMEDIATE ROLE IN ANY PROCESS OF NATIONAL POLITICAL CONSOLIDATION. INSTEAD, THE ALLIANCE WOULD ATTEMPT TO ORGANIZE ITSELF SLOWLY FROM THE GRASS-ROOTS UP.

RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, POLITICAL SITUATION, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PARIS08126
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750112-1039
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750493/aaaadhce.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchantr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <01 OCT 2003 by buchantr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REMARKS BY TRAN QUOC BUU
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, VN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006